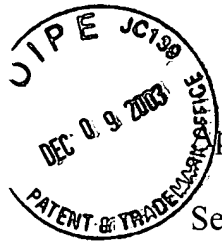


P23207.A01



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI et al. Group Art Unit:
Serial No : 10/663,788
Filed : September 17, 2003
For : DIAGNOSIS SUPPORTING DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

JP 2000-23903 to FURUSAWA et al., published January 25, 2000, and corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 6,371,908; and

JP 2002-500907 to MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, published January 15, 2002, and corresponding to WO 99/37204.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents. Copies of each of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the

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Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent applications:

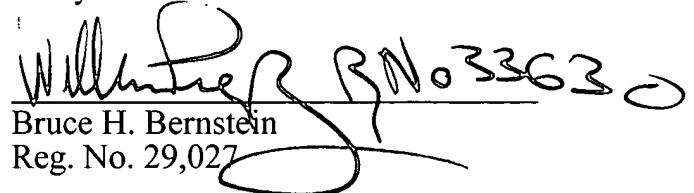
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/178,758 to Ryo OZAWA et al., filed June 25, 2002, and entitled "Electronic Endoscope System with Color-Balance Alteration Process"; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/933,110 to Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI, filed August 21, 2001, and entitled "Video Endoscope System".


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-noted U.S. Patent application, as filed, are attached hereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI et al.


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

November 17, 2003
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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. P23207		Serial No. 10/663,788							
<div></div> <div>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)</div>				Applicant Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI et al.									
				Filing Date September 17, 2003		Group Unknown							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER				DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE			
		6	3	7	1	9	0	8	04/16/02	FURUSAWA et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS													
		DOCUMENT NUMBER				DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO			
20	0	0	-	2	3	9	0	3	01/25/00	JAPAN			
200	2	-	5	0	0	9	0	7	01/15/02	JAPAN			
	9	9	/	3	7	2	0	4	07/29/99	W.I.P.O.			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)													
EXAMINER							DATE CONSIDERED						
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													